

Serial No. 10/676,774
60244-007

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-15 and 17-22 are pending in this application. The Examiner did not reject claims 21 and 22.

Claims 1, 3-9, 14 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks (5988663) in view of Wu (6612598). The Examiner admits that Starks fails to disclose a second quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory. The Examiner states that Wu discloses a support 4 having first and second quick release connections, and it would have been obvious to modify the bicycle accessory device of Starks with the release connections of Wu to allow easy assembly. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The claimed invention is not obvious. Neither reference discloses a bicycle accessory device including a quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory that includes a resilient member as claimed. The Examiner admits that Starks does not disclose this feature. Wu also does not disclose this feature. Wu discloses a rear steering device for a tricycle. As shown in Figure 2, Wu discloses a rear steering bar 4 including a lower end securely attached to a driving member and an upper end on which a grip section 41 is provided (column 2, lines 24 to 20). The Examiner states that the figures shows a quick release connection. However, Wu does not disclose a quick release connection between the rear steering bar 4 and the grip 41 that includes *a resilient member* as claimed. Wu discloses no quick release connection with a resilient member. Wu only shows a plurality of holes at the connection between the rear steering bar 4 and the grip 41. Neither reference discloses a quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory that includes a resilient member as claimed, and therefore the references taken together do not teach, suggest or disclose the claimed invention. The claimed invention is not obvious, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Wu and further in view of Kuo (6398247). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Wu and further in view of Kirvutza (4157075). Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Wu (6612598) and further in view of Kahmann (6443472). Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Wu and further in view of Long (6149179). Claims 10-13, 15 and 17 depend on patentable independent claim 1 and are allowable for the reasons set forth above. The claimed invention is not obvious because neither of the references

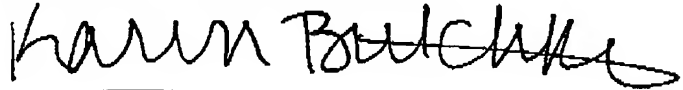
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disclose, suggest or teach a bicycle accessory device including a quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory that includes a resilient member. Therefore, the references taken together do not disclose, suggest or teach the claimed invention. The claimed invention is not obvious, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, claims 1-22 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this response is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 571-273-8300 on December 27, 2006.


Karin H. Butchko